

## WHAT IS THIS REPORT?

We are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. The Gillett Water Utility obtains groundwater from three wells. Well No. 2 is a 16-inch diameter, 245 feet deep well and Well No. 3 is a 16-inch diameter, 280 feet deep well. Well No.4 is a 12 inch in diameter and 325 feet deep. The distribution system consists of 75,399 feet of water main, 125 fire hydrants, three booster pump stations, one 97,000-gallon ground storage reservoir, one 77,000-gallon ground storage reservoir, one 75,000-gallon ground storage reservoir and one 300,000-gallon elevated storage tank.

The Gillett Water Utility has made significant improvements to the water supply system in the last 5 years to provide you with a safe and reliable water service. There were fire hydrants, and their valves were upgraded; also, more dead-end water mains were connected to provide better quality water on those streets. There was full reconstruct on watermains, valves, and hydrants on Washington street to also improve our system in 2023.

We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Ron Anderson at (920) 855-2255.

The Gillett Water Utility routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State regulations. Table I shows the results of our monitoring for constituents that were detected for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2020. Constituents not monitored in 2023 and showing a prior detection in the last 5 calendar years are also included.

## WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

As you can see by Table 1, our system had no violations. We constantly monitor for various

constituents in the water supply to meet all regulatory requirements. We are proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether your drinking water meets health standards.

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Please call our office if you have questions. (920-855-2315)

## PFAS Contaminants with a Recommended Health Advisory Level

Perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a large group of human-made chemicals that have been used in industry and consumer products worldwide since the 1950s.

The reverse-side table list PFAS contaminants which were detected in your water and that have a Recommended Public Health Groundwater Standard (RPHGS) or Health Advisory Level (HAL). There are no violations for detections of contaminants that exceed the RPHGS or HAL. The RPHGS are levels at which concentrations of the contaminant present a health risk and are based on guidance provided by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

### Definition of Terms and Abbreviations:

**AL-** Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

**HA and HAL-**Health Advisory. An estimate of acceptable drinking water levels for a chemical substance based on health effects information. HAL- Health Advisory Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, poses a health risk and may require a system to post a public notice.

**HI-** Hazard Index. A Hazard Index is used to assess the potential health impacts associated with mixtures of contaminants. Hazard Index guidance for a class of contaminants or mixture of contaminants may be determined by the US EPA or WI Dept of Health Services. If a Health Index is exceeded a system may be required to post a public notice.

**MCL-** Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**MCLG-** Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

**pCi/l-** Picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

**ppm-** Parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)

**ppb-** Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l)

**ppt-** Parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter

**ppq-** Parts per quadrillion, or pictograms per liter

**PHGS-**Public Health Groundwater Standards are found in NR 140 Groundwater Quality. The Concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, poses a health risk and may require a system to post a public notice.

**RPHGS-** Recommended Public Health Groundwater Standards: Groundwater standards proposed by the WI Dept of Health Services. The Concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, poses a health risk and may require a system to post a public notice.

**SMCL-**Secondary drinking water standards or Secondary Maximum Contaminant Levels for contaminants that affect taste, odor, or appearance of the drinking water. The SMCLs do not represent health standards.

## GILLETT WATER UTILITY Annual Drinking Water Quality

Report for 2023

Utility Office

150 N. McKenzie Avenue

Gillett, WI 54124

Telephone

920-855-2315

Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, o hable con alguien que lo entienda.

Dlaim ntawv tshaabzu nuav muaj lug tseemceeb heev nyob rua huv kws has txug cov dlej mej haus. Kuas ib tug paab txhais rua koj, los nrug ib tug kws paub lug thaam.



## Water System Information

If you would like to know more about the information contained in this report, please contact Ron Anderson at (920) 855-2315.

## Source(s) of Water

Source ID	Source	Depth (in feet)	Status
2	Groundwater	245	Active
3	Groundwater	280	Active
4	Groundwater	325	Active

## Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally- occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also, come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

## Educational Information

The sources of drinking water both tap water and bottled water; include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which shall provide the same protection for public health.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant

women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Gillett Waterworks is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by

flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

Disinfection Byproducts					Sample Date		
Contaminant (Units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	(if prior to 2023)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
HAA5 (ppb) Site B4	60	60	2	2		NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb) Site B4	80	0	5.8	5.8		NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Inorganic Contaminants							
Contaminant (Units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range		Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
ARSENIC (ppb)	10	N/A	3	2-3		NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
BARIUM (ppm)	2	2	0.053	.037-.053		NO	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
FLUORIDE (ppm)	4	4	0.1	0.1-0.1		NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
NITRATE (NO3-N) (ppm)	10	10	.08	.0-.08		NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from Septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
NICKEL (ppb)	100		2.5000	1.1000-2.5000		NO	Nickel occurs naturally in soils, ground water & surface waters & is often used in electroplating, stainless steel & alloy products
SODIUM (ppm)	N/A	N/A	6.5	3.30-6.50		NO	N/A
Radioactive Contaminants							
Contaminant (Units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range		Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
GROSS ALPHA, EXCL. R&U (pCi/l)	15	0	2.6	1.5-2.6	7/15/2020	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
RADIUM, (226+228)( pCi/l)	5	0	.9	0.0-0.9	7/15/2020	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
GROSS ALPHA, INCL. R & U na	N/A	N/A	3.5	0.0-3.5	7/15/2020	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
COMBINED URANIUM (ug/l)	30	0	1.3	1.1-1.3	7/15/2020	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
PFAS Contaminant (Units)	RPHGS OR HAL		Level Found	Range		---	Typical Source of Contaminant
PFOA (ppt)		20	.86	0.0-0.86			Drinking water is one way that people can be exposed to PFAS. In WI, two thirds of people use groundwater as their drinking water source. PFAS can get in groundwater from places that make or use PFAS and release from consumer products in landfills.
PFOA AND PFOS TOTAL (ppt)		20	.86	0.0-0.86			
Inorganic Contaminants	Action Level	MCL G	90 <sup>th</sup> percentile level found	# of Results		Violation	
COPPER (ppm)	AL=1.3	1.3	0.5300	0 of 10 results were above the action level		NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
LEAD (ppb)	AL=15	0	2.2			NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits